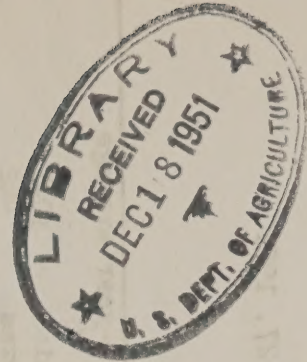


RABBITS IN THE JUNIOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

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The rabbit is a very useful animal to use in teaching young people the general principles of breeding, feeding and management of livestock. They are inexpensive and require only a relatively small space, consequently many boys and girls living on the edge of town or even of large cities that do not prohibit the keeping of animals can enjoy the close daily contacts with growing animals that develop some of the best in a person.

Though rabbits have been included in the 4-H program of the Cooperative Agricultural Extension Service for many years greater emphasis has been placed on this phase of livestock production during the last five years, particularly in the Southeastern States. A tabulation by States of the 4-H rabbit projects completed, the number of rabbits included, and the percentage of counties having rabbit projects brings out some interesting information. All the State and territories have rabbit projects. California, the principal commercial rabbit producing area, led in 4-H Club members carrying rabbit projects in 1950 as well as in the number of rabbits in the projects. Four of the top ten States are in the Southeastern area with respect to numbers of rabbits in the projects. There are rabbit projects in 4-H Clubs in all the counties of several States, and the percentage of counties having rabbit projects is 62 of the total counties in the United States. With 1947 as a base, the year when 4-H rabbit projects were reported separately, the Southeastern States as a whole reported in 1950 a 172 percent increase in members carrying the rabbit project over 1947 and an increase over 1949 of 61 percent. The Western States showed an increase in membership in 1950 over 1947 of 126 percent. Less phenomenal increases occurred in the other sections. The percentage increase in 1950 of 4-H members completing their rabbit projects for the entire United States is 108 percent over 1947. The members carrying rabbit projects in 4-H Clubs and the rabbits in their projects for the 10 leading States are shown in tables for years 1947, 1948, 1949, and 1950. A four-year average is also given. Approximately 59 percent of the rabbit projects and 56 percent of the rabbits are found in these 10 leading States. In 1950, the 17,563 4-H members in the United States had 182,939 rabbits.

All the Southeastern States except Mississippi and South Carolina had Negro 4-H members carrying rabbit projects in 1950. Delaware, Maryland and West Virginia also had such rabbit projects. In these States 84 counties had 402 Negro 4-H members completing their rabbit projects with a total of 3,177 rabbits. This means an increase of 30 percent in membership and about 10 percent in total rabbits over 1949. Texas led in this project in 1950 with 119 members and 715 rabbits.

The Boy Scouts of America for 1950 showed 22.4 percent increase in Rabbit Raising Merit Badges awarded, making a total of 2,331 for the year. Awards were made in every State and in two of the territories. The five leading States with the number of awards were as follows: California, 273 (1st also in 1949); Texas, 160 (4th in 1949); Pennsylvania, 111; Ohio, 110 (3rd in 1949); Utah, 97. The grand total of merit badge awards for rabbit raising now stands at 14,061.



July 27, 1951

4-H RABBIT PROJECTS

10 Highest States

Members completing projects

Rank:	1947	1948	1949	1950	4-year average
1	Ohio 862	Ohio 897	Texas 1191	Texas 1851	Ohio 1041
2	Texas 672	Calif. 733	Ohio 1103	Ohio 1302	Texas 942
3	Calif. 620	P. Rico 634	Calif. 1070	Calif. 1256	Calif. 920
4	P. Rico 585	New York 527	Indiana 1006	Ind. 1229	Ind. 786
5	New York 566	Indiana 510	Michigan 692	P. Rico 794	P. Rico 629
6	Minnesota 565	Minnesota 507	New York 619	Kentucky 761	Mich. 598
7	Michigan 445	Michigan 461	Minn. 539	P. Rico 759	New York 587
8	Indiana 399	Kentucky 443	P. Rico 538	Tenn. 737	Minn. 583
9	Kentucky 319	Colorado 367	Tenn. 495	Minnesota 720	Kentucky 494
10	Colorado 260	Louisiana 363	Kentucky 454	New York 635	Colorado 413
Totals:	5294	5442	7707	10044	6993
Percent of Total U. S.	63.0	60.4	63.8	57.3	59.5

4-H RABBIT PROJECTS

10 Highest States

Total Rabbits

Rank	1947	1948	1949	1950	4-year average
1	Calif. 12245	Calif. 15871	Calif. 23443	Calif. 28670	Calif. 20055
2	Minn. 6443	P. Rico 5683	Texas 7664	Texas 14544	Texas 7123
3	Texas 5777	Minn. 5503	New York 6935	Kentucky 13450	Kentucky 7095
4	P. Rico 4446	Ohio 5039	Ohio 6731	Minn. 7785	Minn. 6456
5	New York 4310	Kentucky 5039	Minn. 6090	Ohio 7741	Ohio 5833
6	Kentucky 4127	New York 3992	Georgia 5838	New York 6942	New York 5431
7	Ohio 3821	Indiana 3389	Kentucky 5763	P. Rico 6486	P. Rico 4762
8	Virginia 2772	Oregon 2948	Oregon 5500	Georgia 5885	Oregon 4023
9	Michigan 2595	Washington 2849	Washington 4599	Indiana 5882	Ind. 3930
10	Colorado 2462	Michigan 2392	Indiana 4431	Colorado 5789	Colorado 3708
Totals:	48998	52696	76994	103174	68416
Percent of Total U. S.	62.4	58.5	58.5	56.6	56.6



State:	No. of members:	No. of rabbits:	-3- Percent of Counties	Percent increase or decrease over	
				1947	1949
Alabama	490	5164	80	438	86
Arkansas	306	2938	84	112	39
Florida	284	3354	55	324	26
Georgia	513	5885	52	140	30
Kentucky	761	13450	55	138	68
Louisiana	453	4714	76	97	60
Mississippi	56	601	21	250	81
North Carolina	164	1531	37	235	29
Oklahoma	525	3455	49	1246	369
South Carolina	27	247	35	350	575
Tennessee	737	6942	57	-1017	49
Texas	1851	14544	64	175	55
Virginia	273	3793	67	86	60
Puerto Rico	759	5231		30	41
Totals:	7199	71849	61	172	61
Arizona	84	91	86	75	5
California	1256	28670	81	102	17
Colorado	604	5789	71	132	43
Idaho	125	869	59	149	71
Montana	123	1039	46	151	-3
Nevada	41	592	47	*	37
New Mexico	222	3197	84	67	25
Oregon	412	5743	83	171	11
Utah	35	445	48	192	67
Washington	374	5700	85	253	17
Wyoming	39	287	56	39	18
Alaska	6	12		200	500
Hawaii	40	638		*	48
Totals:	3361	53,881	70	126	22
Grand Totals:	17563	182939	62	108	34

\*None in 1947



# 4-H RABBIT PROJECTS

## 10 Highest States

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7	Mich. 445	Mich. 461	P. Rico 539	New York 759
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8	Va. 2772	Ore. 2948	Ore. 5500	P. Rico 5885
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